

Abstract

A system including a mobile or portable fingerprint scanner and one or more docking stations adapted to
5 operatively receive the scanner. The scanner can be
hand carried to various locations for obtaining
fingerprint images and other information such as images
from bar code scanning. The scanner is battery operated
and has the capacity of storing a number of such images.
10 The docking station is in the form of a receptacle into
which the scanner is inserted after obtaining one or
more images. While the scanner is operatively received
in the docking station, the image(s) stored in the
scanner are downloaded via a connection to a personal
15 computer or the like, the scanner battery is recharged
and the docking station performs various diagnostic
operations on the scanner before it is withdrawn from
the docking station for further use. In a typical law
enforcement situation, the docking station is located
20 within the law enforcement vehicle and the scanner can
be used by law enforcement personnel at locations remote
from the vehicle. In a typical security situation, a
single scanner is carried by the security officer and a
docking station is located at each checkpoint or
25 location where the officer is to perform an inspection.
Each bay station has a unique identification and there
is bidirectional exchange of information between the
scanner and the bay station so that the identity of the
security officer can be confirmed and a record of the
30 inspections is made which can be monitored at any time.